

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 031863

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: ICEM EXPENDITURES, INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: A) MERRILL/BRENNAN LETTER DATED 19 JANUARY, 1976

B) MOTT/DONNELLY TELECON, REBRUARY 2, 1976

1. IN PREPARATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS REGARDING ICEM EXPENDITURES FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES, WE NEED TO VERIFY CERTAIN INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFERENCE LETTER AND ATTACHED FINAL INVOICES/CREDIT NOTES AND COMPUTER PRINT-OUTS COVERING MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES UP TO 30 SEPTEMBER. THERE ARE SOME ACCOUNTING ADJUSTMENTS THAT NEED TO BE MADE ASAP.

2. FOR THE APRIL 25 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1975 PERIOD, CREDIT NOTE NO. CR 12-908 LISTS A TOTAL OF 1,850 REFUGEES MOVED WHILE THE COMPUTER LISTING FOR SOME PERIOD SHOWS A TOTAL OF 3,793. WE ASSUME THAT THE DIFFERENCE OF 1,943 IS THE NUMBER MOVED BY MAC FLIGHTS AND NOT CHARGED TO ICEM OR PAID THE ENTIRE FARE THEMSELVES. PLEASE CONFIRM OUR ASSUMPTION AS BEING CORRECT OR EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 031863

3. FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, CREDIT NOTE. NO CR-12-910

SHOWS A TOTAL OF 2,097 REFUGEES WHILE THE COMPUTER LISTING FOR SOME PERIOD LISTS 2,178. PLEASE EXPLAIN THIS DIFFERENCE.

4. WE ARE UNABLE TO DETERMINE FROM THE REPORTS IF ANY OF THE MOVEMENTS ARE FROM THE U.S. TO THIRD COUNTRIES. PLEASE ADVISE IF SUCH MOVEMENTS ARE INCLUDED AND THE NUMBER AND COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT. NOTE THAT THE ABOVE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE OCTOBER MOVEMENTS WHICH DOES BREAK OUT MOVEMENTS FROM THE U.S. TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

5. A REVIEW OF YOUR JUNE THROUGH DECEMBER, 1975 MONTHLY ANALYSIS REPORTS OF APPROPRIATION 19-561144 SHOWS THAT ICEM HAS BEEN PAID 5,902,235 DOLLARS WHILE THEY CHARGED 3,339,115 DOLLARS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF 7,947 REFUGEES DURING THE APRIL 25 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1975 PERIOD. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ACCOUNT FOR THIS DIFFERENCE OF 2,563,120 DOLLARS IN THE ICEM ACCOUNT. WE REALIZE THAT THIS DOES NOT REFLECT THE CHARGES FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER TRANSPORTATION, BUT FEW REFUGEES HAVE BEEN MOVED DURING THESE TWO MONTHS. PLEASE PROVIDE A BREAK-DOWN OF THE ABOVE DIFFERENCE.

6. MISSION IS ALSO REQUESTED TO TAKE FOLLOWING ACTION:
A. REQUEST TWO COST PROJECTIONS FROM ICEM FOR THEIR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF CALENDAR YEAR 1976:

(1) MONTHLY COST OF ICEM SUPPORT IN TRANSPORTATING INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ASSUMING THAT REMAINING WORK TO BE DONE BY ICEM FOR USG IS LIMITED TO SUPPORTING TRAVEL OF APPROXIMATELY 2,500 LAO FROM BANGKOK TO CONUS DURING PERIOD JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 1976, IN ADDITION TO MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES WHO WILL BE TRAVELING AT USG EXPENSE FROM CONUS TO THIRD COUNTRIES BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE 30.

(2) MONTHLY COST OF ICEM SUPPORT SPECIFIED IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH PLUS SUPPORT COSTS OF TRANSPORTING ADDITIONAL 11,000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES, PRIMARILY FROM BANGKOK TO CONUS, DURING PERIOD MARCH 1, THROUGH JUNE 30, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 031863

1976 (CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THIS PROGRAM IS UNCERTAIN).

B. REQUEST FROM ICEM BREAKDOWN OF 435,000 DOLLARS QUOTE OVERHEAD EXPENSES UNQUOTE SHOWN ON THEIR PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE SUBMISSION AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 1975. LITTLE EXPLANATION IS NEEDED OF THE 67,500 FIGURE FOR EXPENSES THROUGH AUGUST 31. WHAT IS OF PRIMARY CONCERN IS THE

252,500 DOLLAR COST FOR SEPTEMBER; THE 65,000 DOLLAR COST DURING OCTOBER AND THE 50,000 DOLLAR COST IN NOVEMBER.

C. SINCE ICEM OFFICES ARE SUPPORTING BOTH USG AND UNHCR INDOCHINESE REFUGEE MOVEMENTS, WE ASSUME EXPENSES ARE DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN TWO ORGANIZATIONS. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT PORTION OF 14,000 TO 15,000 DOLLAR COST OF BANGKOK OFFICE MONTHLY EXPENSE IS BEING CHARGED TO UNHCR AND GOVERNMENTS OTHER THAN THE U.S. IF THERE ARE OTHER ICEM OFFICES WITH EXPENSES OVER 5,000 DOLLARS PER MONTH WHICH ARE CHARGEABLE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAM, COMPARABLE COST BREAKDOWNS ARE REQUESTED.

D. MISSION ADVANCES TO ICEM SHOULD NOT BE IN EXCESS OF ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCEEDING 60 DAYS. IF ADVANCES PRESENTLY EXCEED THIS AMOUNT, REFUNDS NEED TO BE MADE ASAP. SINCE IT IS NOW FIRMLY ESTABLISHED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND NOT ICEM WILL BE BILLED FOR ALL U.S. MILITARY REFUGEE FLIGHTS, ANY AMOUNTS ICEM RECEIVED FROM MISSION IN ANTICIPATION OF BEING BILLED BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN COMPUTING AMOUNTS TO BE REFUNDED.

7. WE APPRECIATE MAGNITUDE OF WORK INVOLVED IN COLLECTING INFORMATION AND COMPLETING ACTIONS REQUESTED IN THIS CABLE, BUT MUST STRESS THE NEED FOR PROMPT ATTENTION BEING GIVEN MATTERS NOTED ABOVE. WE RECOGNIZE OUR INFORMATION IS NOT COMPLETE. THUS IF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THIS CABLE NEED TO BE RECONSIDERED, PLEASE PROVIDE ASAP WHATEVER FACTS ARE NEEDED FOR REEVALUATION.

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